

A Fuller

RELATION

Of the

GREAT VICTORY

obtained (through Gods Providence)

at *Alsford*, on Friday the 28. of March, 1644.

By the Parliaments Forces, under the Command
of Sir *William Waller*, Sir *William Balfore*, and Maior
Generall *Browne*, against the forces commanded
by the Earle of Forth, the L. *Hopton*, Com-
missary *Wilmot*, and others.

Together with the Names of the chief
Commanders slaine and taken prisoners
on both sides.

Also a Relation of the Death of the
Earle of Forth the Kings Generall. As it was
presented to the Right Honourable the Lord Major
and the Committee of the *Militia* for the City of
London, by an eye witnesse.

Published by Authority.

April. 1st

London, Printed for *Laurance Blaiklock*. 1644.

K. A. E.

RELIATION

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1 Feb 36



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GENTLEMEN,

BEing imployed in the service of the City and State, to attend the London-Brigade, now joyned with Sir *William Waller*, and at that time intrusted to acquaint you with our proceedings the last week; I am bold, after my humble service, to present to you a brief Relation of the most remarkable Passages between us and the Enemy, not onely in duty to you, but also in love to all those that long to be truly informed in the particular.

May it please your Honour; Upon Thursday the 21. of this instant March (our Brigade being quartered at Midhurst) our Major Generall received Orders from Sir *William Waller*, to advance towards Winchester to a Town called Traford, which accordingly he did with incredible speed, almost at an hours warning, and that night arrived there, which we found to be a small Village, not above seven or eight houses to quarter all our men, there we met with much hardship, staying for Orders till the Lords day following; Upon Monday the 25, we marcht forwards to

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ioyn with Sir William Wallers main body, which
accordingly wee did, and that night were ap-
pointed to quarter at Westmean, three miles di-
stant from the main body, where we found a
partee of the Enemies horse when our Quarter-
masters entred the Town, which occasioned
some action, though not much considerable,
we onely took a Quartermaster prisoner; the
next day, which was Tuesday, we lay still, onely
our Scouts brought in some prisoners, 6 Troops
incountring with 16 of the Enemies, put them
to flight, and brought away 3. of them prisoners;
The day following we discovered the Enemy,
who took some fevv of our men that vvere strag-
ling from their colours, and soon after appeared
in a great body upon the hill on the left hand the
Tovvn, intending (as some prisoners confessed)
to take us at Church, it being the Fast day; but
it pleased God, vvho foresavv the Plot, to prevent
the danger, directing us to keep the Fast the
Wednesday before, vvhen vve lay still at Mid-
hurst, so that vvee vvere provided to entertain
them, and drevv our men into a body neer the
town; which done, Orders came to march away,
which accordingly we did, in the Forlorn-Hope,
expecting the Enemy every hour to fall upon us,
fo

so that we were forced to make a stand a mile or more from
the down in extreame danger, till Sir *William Walters* forces
came up from Eastmean to joyn with us, then we marche
along till we came neer to Cheriton, to a place called
by some, Lamborough-field, where wee quartered all
night, the Enemy lying upon Sutton Common, and some
part of them neerer to us, so neer that the Sentinels could
heare one another talke: Upon Thursday morning a com-
manded partee was sent to view the Enemy, which they
did, and incountered with a forlorne hope of the Ene-
mies, and behaved themselves very bravely, so that day
was spent in skirmishes, where much gallantry and true
valour was shewed by our horse, especially two men
whose names I do not well remember, to the perpetuall
honour of the actors, and great admiration of the specta-
tors; by whose meanes a considerable partee was once in-
gaged, and the enemy came on with a great body, which
appearing, we discharged one gun, which did such execu-
tion in our sight, that they all fled.

This day a Counsell of War was called by both par-
tees, both by us and the Enemy, as since we are informed,
and the ingagement was such, that of necessity they must
give battell or retreat with much dishonour, the next mor-
ning we prepared for the worke, and having sought to
God for assistance, we did addresse our selves to the ser-
vice; in the first place, a forlorne hope was drawn out of our
brigade, four files out of a company, led on by *Captain
Tompson*, a stout man, who were sent to take possession of a
wood which lay on the right hand betweene us and the
enemy, which they obtained with ease in the enemies
fight; but such was their policy, that they foreseeing the
necessity of our gaining the wood, if ever we gave battell
to them in that place, planted their Drakes on the further
side of the wood, which they discharged upon our men so
thick, that the place was not tenible, though the greatest
part of our Musketteers, and some others, were drawn up
to

to them, so that they were forced to retreat in one houres space, which gave great incouragement to the Enemie, who presently came on with their main body of horse, very powerfully, and were met as couragiously, yet being of the greater number (for our whole body was not then together) forced ours to a disorderly retreat, at which time the day was doubtfull, if not desperate, our foot all the while was ingaged on the left wing, to drive the Enemy from the hedges, where our men played their parts gallantly, and drove them frō hedge to hedge by degrees, till they had forced them to the top of the hil, our horse doing little for the space of an hour after their retreat, only some parties incountring with each other, at which time our Noble Major Generall *Brown* (who was ever known to be a valiant man, and must be lookt upon as a speciall instrument in the work, Drew off 100. men from the hedges, and in his own person led them on to charge the horse, which they did most gladly and couragiously, and forced the enemies horse to wheele about, wherupon our body of horse came on again, and that very manfully, at which time they charged quice thorow the Enemies body and put them to a rout, so that they were forced to retreat to the top of the hill, where they first appeared, this was about two of the clock in the afternoon, at which time they began to retreat, and sent their Carriages away, their body of foot followed after, the horse and some few foot onely being left to face and to fight with us, at the the last it pleased God to raise up the spirits of some few, not above 300. and to put such courage into them, as to adventure out of the closings, to charge the main body upon the plain, which they did so resolutely that they put them all to flight, our horse pursued them two miles at the least, till the Enemies horse overtook their own foot, who cryed out (as the country people say) Face them, face them, once more face them; which they did, but to small purpose; our horse came up, and at the first charge they were all routed and fled, our horse pursued them till they overtook the foot, routed them likewise, and dispersed them severall waies, some fled to Basing

• sing, some to Alton, and some to Winchester, and by the way they cried out, the Kingdoms lost, the Kingdoms lost, &c. and when they left Alsford where they had long quartered, they set the town on fire at both ends, which doubtlesse had burnt to the ground, but that our men came in and put it out, there was onely four or five houses burnt.

Thus it pleased God (who alone is the giver of all Victory) to vouchsafe us not onely a deliverance (which we should have owned as a mercy) but a glorious conquest. As for the instruments, I dare not challenge any of neglect in this dayes service, to speak the truth, both Horse and foot quit themselves bravely.

We took prisoners in the fight, Sir *Edward* or Sir *John Stowell*, Major Gener: of a Brigade, a man of a great estate: Col: *Beard*, Colonell of a Regiment of Horse, and of a Regiment of Foot, who was imployed in *Ireland*: Lieut. Col: *Kingston*, Captain *Price*, Captain *Chidleigh*, Captain *Jackson*, Captain *Seamer*, Ensigne *Cowper*, Lieuten: *...*, Ensigne *Mellis*, Ensigne *Marshall*, Ensigne *Midley*, Cornet *Constable*, Cornet *Ducket*, *John Morsey* Physitian; Together with many other Captains and Commanders, besides comon Soldiers, the certain number I know not, whereas wee have not lost 40 men that wee know of; one of our men that was taken prisoner (but left behinde by reason of his wounds) told me himself, they had not taken 20 prisoners in all; and, I know not of 20 slain; the most considerable losse on our part, is the Col: *Tompson* (a brave man) is shot with a Drake, and his Leg is cut off, we are in great hopes of his recovery; Major *Boswell* is desperately wounded; Captain *Melton* is taken prisoner, some few are wounded, but I hope not mortally, the certain number of the slain I cannot report; they told us in Alsford, that they fetcht off cart-loads of dead men, and some they buried, and some they carryed with them, the Lord *John* the Duke of Richmonds brother is slain, and Generall *Rutten* as we are informed, though the Malignants are loath to part with such a Souldier, or to hear of his death, some say, he was not there; others say, he is escaped safe to Reading;

Reading; give me leave to tell the truth, I my self was at the house where he quartered at Alsford, the Master of the house testifies that he was there, and being troubled with the Gout, went not into the field, in the morning, news was sent to him (doubtless it went to Oxford too, we may chance hear of a Thanksgiving for it) that the Londoners were routed, a thousand taken prisoners, the rest fled, and were then in the pursuit, welcome News no doubt, for presently he calls for a deck of Cards, and follows his sport, till at last a messenger in all hast tells him the tide was turn'd, their horse were routed, and his presence requested; away he goes into the field, and was saluted there by Lieutenant Colonell Bump, and so the game was ended; our great gunne cut him off, and he was brought dead to town: I could tell you of some others; our Captain left behinde in Alsford sorely wounded; both ~~our~~ the Devil is in the Round-Heads they are such Firemen; they have slain, wounded, and taken Prisoners, all their Commanders of any note, if it be an untruth, for any Malignant please to give it a grosser title, consider out of whose mouth it came; this for Friday. On Saturday morning I spake with the Messenger, who came from Sir William Waller to our Major Generall with Orders, for we stayed at Alsford, 14 miles behinde Sir William Waller, who affirmed that the Horse and Foot were totally routed, not a body of 200 Foot to be found, of the great Army, consisting in all of twelve thousand, that we had taken seven peeces of Ordnance, many carriages, and that Sir William would set upon Winchester immediately, being within a mile and a half of it then, I trust in God he is by this time possesst of it. Many passages I am forced to omit for brevities sake, both in and after the fight: we had both the same word, *God with us*: but see what it is to dissemble with a God of truth. Our next word was, *Jesus help us*; so he did: and then the last was, *Glory be to God*. Give me leave to end here, and let this day be ever in our thoughts, and the word be ever in our mouths, a day wherein God was seen in the high places of the field, a wise, mighty wonder working God, there is not an Atheist that can own thee, and not acknowledge it to be *digitus Dei*; Tis God alone that hath done the work, to him alone be all the praise; The rest is this,

March 30. 1644.

Gentlemen, I am your humble servant, E.A.
The Queens Regiment being there, and Prince Maurices forces;
most of the Irish neither giving nor taking quarter. FINIS.